

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 28, after the first full paragraph, insert the following new paragraphs:

D --Once the hand piece 30 is enabled or activated by the generator console 10 (set 507), the diagnostics settings of the hand piece generator are adjusted, as indicated in step 511. Here, the system performs diagnostic tests to determine whether a reprogram or upgrade of the generator console is needed. If it is determined that a reprogram or upgrade is needed, the generator console reads the memory located in the sheath of the end-effector of the hand piece where a reprogram or upgrade code is stored. Using the reprogram or upgrade code read from the memory, the generator console is reprogrammed or upgraded accordingly. This permits automatic upgrades of the generator consoles in the "field" without having to return them to the manufacturer or to send a service technician to where the generator console is physically located.

In alternative embodiments, rather than reprogramming the generator memory, the blade/shear memory data is utilized by the generator console as the basis for setting operation parameters for the particular blade/shear in use.

Subsequent to the adjustment of the diagnostic setting, the type of blade that is connected to the hand piece is displayed on the console display 12.--